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EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General 1 Board of Vocational Nursing of the State of California and Psychiatric Technicians 2 ARTHUR D. TAGGART Supervising Deputy Attorney General JEFFREY M. PHILLIPS, State Bar No. 154990 Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 4 1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255 5 Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 324-6292 Facsimile: (916) 322-8288 Attorneys for Complainant 8 9 BEFORE THE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS 10 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 11 12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. VN-2006-920 13 JESSICA JORGENSEN, a.k.a. JESSICA CAROL JORGENSEN, ACCUSATION 14 a.k.a. JESSICA FREEMAN P.O. Box 732 15 Corning, CA 96021 16 Vocational Nurse License No. 173631 17 Respondent. 18 19 Complainant alleges: 20 **PARTIES** 21 1. Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S.N., R.N. ("Complainant") brings this 22 Accusation solely in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians ("Board"), Department of Consumer Affairs. 23 24 On or about August 28, 1995, the Board issued Vocational Nurse License Number VN 173631 to Jessica Jorgensen, also known as Jessica Carol Jorgensen and Jessica 25 Freeman ("Respondent"). Respondent's license will expire on June 30, 2009, unless renewed. 26 27 111 28

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 3. Business and Professions Code ("Code") section 2875 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline the holder of a vocational nurse license for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2875) of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act.
- 4. Code section 118, subdivision (b), provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated. Under Code section 2892.1, the Board may renew an expired license at any time within four years after the expiration.
 - 5. Code section 2878 states, in pertinent part:

The Board may suspend or revoke a license issued under this chapter [the Vocational Nursing Practice Act (Bus. & Prof. Code § 2840, et seq.)] for any of the following:

- (a) Unprofessional conduct. . .
- (f) Conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensed vocational nurse, in which event the record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence of the conviction.
- (j) The commission of any act involving dishonesty, when that action is related to the duties and functions of the licensee. . .
 - 6. Code section 2878.5 states, in pertinent part:

In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter, it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

(b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 of the health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public, or to the extent that such impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.

(c) Be convicted of a criminal offense involving possession of any narcotic or dangerous drug, or the prescription, consumption, or self-administration of any of the substances described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this section, in which event the record of the conviction is conclusive evidence thereof. . .

COST RECOVERY

7. Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Criminal Convictions)

- 8. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 2878, subdivision (f), in that she was convicted of crimes which are substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensed vocational nurse, as follows:
- a. On or about December 12, 1997, in the criminal proceeding titled *People* v. *Jessica Carol Freeman* (Mini. Ct. Shasta County, Redding Branch, 1997, No. 97-7403), Respondent was convicted by the Court on her plea of nolo contendere to one misdemeanor count in violation of Vehicle Code ("V.C.") section 23152, subdivision (b) (driving while having a blood alcohol level of 0.08% or higher)^{1/2} with two special enhancements in violation of V.C. section 23194 (passengers under the age of 14). The circumstances of the crime are that on or about September 14, 1997, Respondent did willfully and unlawfully, while having 0.08% and more, by weight, of alcohol in her blood, drive a vehicle. Further, Respondent drove said vehicle while having two minors under the age of 14 as passengers in the vehicle.
- b. On or about May 8, 2003, in the criminal proceeding titled *People v. Jessica Carol Freeman* (Super. Ct. Shasta County, Redding Branch, 2003, No. 02F6157), Respondent was convicted by the jury of one misdemeanor count in violation of P.C. section

^{1.} Respondent was also charged with one count in violation of V.C. section 23152, subdivision (a) (driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs), two counts in violation of Penal Code ("P.C.") section 273a, subdivision (b) (cruelty to a child), and one count in violation of V.C. section 27360.5, subdivision (a) (permitting a child in a vehicle without a safety belt); however, these charges were dismissed.

148, subdivision (a)(1), (resisting, delaying and obstructing a peace officer)². The circumstances of the crime are that on or about August 10, 2002, Respondent did willfully and unlawfully resist, delay and obstruct Redding Police Officers D. and F. who were then and there peace officers attempting to and discharging the duty of their office and employment.

On or about February 2, 2004, in the criminal proceeding titled People v. Jessica Carol Freeman (Super. Ct. Shasta County, Redding Branch, 2004, No. 03-09772), Respondent was convicted by the Court on her plea of no contest to one misdemeanor count in violation of V.C. section 23152, subdivision (b) (driving while having a blood alcohol level of 0.08% or higher) and one misdemeanor count in violation of V.C. section 2800.1 (evading an officer)3/. The circumstances of the crime are that on or about December 1, 2003, Respondent did willfully and unlawfully operate a motor vehicle while having 0.08% and more, by weight, of alcohol in her blood, and with the intent to evade, flee and otherwise attempt to elude a pursuing peace officer's motor vehicle.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Use of Alcoholic Beverages to an Extent or in a Manner Dangerous or Injurious to Others)

9. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code 2878.5, subdivision (b), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct. On or about September 14, 1997, and December 1, 2003, Respondent used alcoholic beverages to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to herself, others, and the public, as set forth above in paragraph 8, subsections (a) and (c).

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2. Respondent was also charged with one count in violation of P.C. section 273a, subdivision (a) (child abuse); however, the jury found her not guilty of this charge.

3. Respondent was also charged with one count in violation of V.C. section 23152, subdivision (a) (driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs), one count in violation of P.C. section 148, subdivision (a)(1) (resisting, delaying and obstructing a peace officer), and one count in violation of V.C. section 22450 (failure to stop); however, these charges were dismissed.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Convictions Related to the

Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages)

10. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 2878.5, subdivision (c), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct. On or about December 12, 1997, and February 2, 2004, Respondent was convicted of criminal offenses involving the consumption of alcoholic beverages, as set forth above in paragraph 8, subsections (a) and (c).

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonest Acts)

- 11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 2878, subdivision (j), in that she committed the following acts involving dishonesty relating to the duties and functions of a licensed vocational nurse:
- a. On or about July 20, 2003, Respondent submitted a Renewal Application Licensed Vocational Nurse ("RALVN") to the Board wherein she swore, under penalty of perjury, that the information contained therein was true and correct. As to the question on the RALVN asking, "Since you last renewed your license, have you been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to any violation of any law of any state in the United States or a foreign country?" Respondent checked the box indicating her answer was "No". Respondent was dishonest in her answer to this question as, subsequent to her last license renewal on or about July 5, 2001, she was convicted on May 8, 2003, on her plea of no contest, to one misdemeanor count in violation of P.C. section 148, subdivision (a)(1), as set forth above.
- b. Complainant hereby incorporates the allegations made in paragraph 8(c) above. At the time Respondent was being placed into custody for evading and driving under the influence, the arresting officer asked her on two separate occasions if she had been drinking that evening because he could smell the odor of alcohol on her breath. On both occasions, Respondent denied having had any alcohol to drink. Respondent was dishonest in her

answers to the officer's question as she was subsequently convicted of a violation of V.C. section 23152, subdivision (b) (driving while having a blood alcohol level of 0.08% or higher).

c. On or about April 14, 2005, Respondent submitted a Renewal Application Licensed Vocational Nurse ("RALVN") to the Board wherein she swore, under penalty of perjury, that the information contained therein was true and correct. As to the question on the RALVN asking, "Since you last renewed your license, have you been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to any violation of any law of any state in the United States or a foreign country?" Respondent checked the box indicating her answer was "No". Respondent was dishonest in her answer to this question as, subsequent to her last license renewal on or about July 20, 2003, she was convicted on February 2, 2004, on her plea of no contest, to one misdemeanor count in violation of V.C. section 23152, subdivision (b), and one misdemeanor count in violation of V.C. section 2800.1, as set forth above.

MATTERS IN AGGRAVATION

- 12. On January 8, 1997, a Board investigator interviewed Respondent at her residence after the Board received a written complaint that Respondent had allegedly been using marijuana. During the interview, the investigator requested that Respondent provide an unwitnessed urine sample. Respondent provided the sample to the investigator; however, the temperature strip on the side of the urine collection bottle did not register. When the investigator questioned Freeman about why her sample was cold she stated, "I should have used warm water. You caught me. So now what?" The investigator requested that Respondent go to the Redding Police Department in order to provide a valid urine sample witnessed by a female police officer, but Respondent denied this request.
- 13. On or about April 16, 1997, the Board sent a letter to Respondent following their investigation. Respondent was informed that the Board was unable to pursue disciplinary action against her license at that time; however, she was advised of the authority granted to the Board under Code section 2878.5 and warned that future substantiated reports that she had engaged in similar behavior or otherwise violated the law or regulations governing her practice as a vocational nurse may result in disciplinary action against her license.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians issue a decision:

- Revoking or suspending Vocational Nurse License Number 173631,
 issued to Jessica Jorgensen, also known as Jessica Carol Jorgensen and Jessica Freeman;
- 2. Ordering Jessica Jorgensen, also known as Jessica Carol Jorgensen and Jessica Freeman, to pay the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and
 - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: November 28, 2007.

TERESA BELLO-JONES, J.D., M.S.N., R.N.

Executive Officer

Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant

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